

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of  
 Alan Derek COOKSON et al  
 Serial No.:  
 Filed: Concurrently herewith  
 For: METHOD OF ASSAY

New York, New York  
 Date: November 4, 1998  
 Group Art Unit:  
 Examiner:

Hon. Commissioner of Patents  
 and Trademarks  
 Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 3-5, and 7 as follows.

Claim 3, line 1, change "either claim 1 or claim 2" to ~~claim 1~~.

Claim 4, line 1, change "any of claims 1 to 3" to ~~claim 1~~.

Claim 5, line 1, change "any preceding claim" to ~~claim 1~~.

Claim 7, line 1, change "any preceding claim" to ~~claim 1~~.

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is submitted to change the multiple dependent claims to single dependent claims in order to eliminate the improper multiple dependent claims and to reduce the government filing fee.

## EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

Respectfully submitted,

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail Post Office to Addressee (mail label # EL075470175US) in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, on November 4, 1998:

Dorothy Jenkins

Name of Person Mailing Correspondence

*Dorothy Jenkins*

Signature

November 4, 1998

Date of Signature

*Edward A. Meilman*  
 Edward A. Meilman  
 Registration No.: 24,735  
 OSTROLENK, FABER, GERB & SOFFEN  
 1180 Avenue of the Americas  
 New York, New York 10036-8403  
 Telephone: (212) 382-0700